

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-02 DHA-02 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00  
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DRAFTED BY AF/C:GHAMILTON:JR  
APPROVED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN  
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O P 080425Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO OAU COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT BRIEFING - APRIL 6

1. FOLLOWING Q'S AND A'S ARE EXCERPTED FROM THE APRIL  
6 DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING.

2. Q: IN PATRICIA DERIAN'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE  
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE SUBCOMMITTEE YESTERDAY SHE SAID --  
AND THESE ARE JUST TWO SENTENCES:

-- THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT IN ANYONE'S MIND THAT THIS  
ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED TO MAKE OUR CONCERN FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS A CENTRAL PART OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY."  
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-- AND THEN: "WE WILL CONTINUE, AS NECESSARY, TO EXPRESS  
OUR CONCERNS OVER THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY  
WORD AND BY DEED."

AND MY QUESTION IS: I NOTE THE WORD "CONTINUE". DO YOU  
KNOW WHAT CONCERNS WE HAVE EXPRESSED ABOUT THE SERIOUS  
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ZAIRE? DO WE INTEND TO

WITHHOLD ASSISTANCE UNLESS THESE CONDITIONS IMPROVE --  
AS SECRETARY BRAY PROMISED WOULD BE DONE WITH REGARD TO  
NICARAGUA?

A: WE FEEL THAT ZAIRE DOUBTLESS DOES HAVE FAULTS IN  
THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS - LIKE MANY COUNTRIES. BUT  
WE FEEL THERE IS NOT A PERVASIVE DISREGARD FOR HUMAN  
RIGHTS IN ZAIRE .

3. Q: COULD YOU TELL ME WHY YOU THINK IT IS NOT  
PERVASIVE? WHY IS IT LESS PERVASIVE THAN IN NICARAGUA?

A: I AM GOING TO HAVE TO STAND ON THAT STATEMENT.

4. Q: ON ZAIRE, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THIS MORNING  
-- I DON'T HAVE THE EXACT WORDS HERE, BUT SOMETHING  
TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WAS REPORTED THAT CUBAN (OFFICERS)  
WERE LEADING THE KATANGESE REBELS -- DO YOU KNOW ON  
WHAT BASIS HE MADE THIS STATEMENT?

A: NO.

5. Q: ALSO, VICE PRIMER LI HSIEN-NIEN, IN PEKING  
TONIGHT, MADE A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SOVIETS  
HAD ORGANIZED THIS INVASION OF ZAIRE, FROM ANGOLA.

DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THAT STATEMENT?

A: NO.

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6. Q: COULD YOU TAKE A NEW QUESTION REGARDING CUBAN  
AND SOVIET INVOLVEMENT?

A: WE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO SUBSTANTIATE CLAIMS OF  
CUBAN INVOLVEMENT OR -- IF YOU'RE ASKING ABOUT SOVIET  
PERSONNEL, SOVIET PERSONNEL.

7. Q: THE FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE SAID, LAST NIGHT,  
THAT THIS INVASION COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT  
SOVIET CONNIVANCE.DOES THE DEPARTMENT SHARE THAT VIEW?

A: THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOTED WHAT THE FORMER SECRETARY  
HAD TO SAY. I DON'T HAVE A COMMENT ON THAT DIRECT  
ALLEGATION.

I WILL SAY THAT WE HAVE REPORTEDLY NOTED OUR CONCERN  
THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY KIND OF OUTSIDE INTER-  
FERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF AFRICA; AND HAVE MADE OUR  
CONCERNS IN THIS AREA KNOWN TO A NUMBER OF PARTIES.

8. Q: INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION?

A: YES.

9. Q: WHAT REACTION DID WE GET?

A: I AM NOT GOING TO GO INTO THE DISCOURSE BACK AND FORTH.

10. Q: YOU MAY HAVE MADE THESE STATEMENTS ABOUT CONCERN, BUT I SEEM TO RECALL THAT OUR AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS SAID THAT CUBAN TROOPS WERE A STABILIZING INFLUENCE IN ANGOLA. NOW IT HAS BEEN ALMOST A MONTH SINCE THIS INVASION TOOK PLACE, AND THERE IS STILL A SILENCE FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT ABOUT ALMOST ANY DETAILS ON THAT. AND I RECALL ALSO, THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE SAID UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT TRUTH IS OUTRAGED BY SILENCE. ON THAT BASIS, I AM WONDERING IF IT ISN'T POSSIBLE THAT YOU COULD CONFER WITH THE SECRETARY AND ASK IF THERE ISN'T SOME WAY THAT WE COULD GET MORE DETAILS ON ZAIRE. I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT ANY INCURSIONS INTO IT. AND INsofar AS THE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE GROUND IS CONCERNED, WE HAVE RESPONDED TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ABOUT CUBAN AND SOVIET PARTICIPATION; AND WE SAID, AND I DO SAY NOW, THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO GO INTO THE MILITARY SITUATION DAY BY DAY.

11. Q: HOW ABOUT THE SECOND REQUEST?

A: YES, THE REQUEST IS STILL UNDER STUDY. THERE HAS BEEN NO DECISION. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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